



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

New Orleans Jazz
National Historical Park

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New Orleans Jazz News Release

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New Orleans National Park Shares Jazz With Indiana Students

Indiana elementary school students in tune with New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park's Junior Ranger program will receive their badges in a special ceremony on April 21 as part of 2008's National Park Service Junior Ranger Day celebration. Over 400 students of Eastern Greene Elementary School in Bloomington have participated in the Junior Ranger program from the park's website, thanks to school librarian Susan Dare. Frank Doughman, chief of interpretation at George Rogers Clark National Historical Park in Vincennes, Indiana, will present the students' Junior Ranger badges.

"Susan Dare contacted New Orleans Jazz about our on-line Junior Ranger program," said Joy Foy, program facilitator. "The University of Indiana's Bloomington campus has an internationally known music program so jazz and these kids were a natural fit."

According to Dare, the university's jazz group performed for and with the students in a "Jazz Informance" in March. The students prepared for the concert for several weeks in music, art, and library classes, including completing the New Orleans Jazz Junior Ranger program in library class.

"We thought it would be terrific to have a ranger present their badges in person," said Foy. "We contacted Frank Doughman who immediately volunteered to travel to Bloomington. National Park Service sites from throughout the country are sending posters to decorate the school to show the children the diversity of our national parks. This has become a real team effort."

Doughman's National Park Service site tells the story of George Roger Clark's small army, who defeated the British at Vincennes in 1779 and secured the Old Northwest Territory for the United States. The park offers an on-site Junior Ranger program.

New Orleans Jazz National Historical Park is managed by the National Park Service and tells the story of the people and places that helped shape the birth and development of jazz in New Orleans. The free visitor center is located at 619 North Peters Street in New Orleans and is open Tuesday-Saturday 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The center features programs and musical performances that are free and open to the public. Call 504-589-4841 or visit www.nps.gov/jazz for more information.

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